



Franklin County Public Health
280 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4562
(614) 525-3160
www.myfcph.org

Controlling the Mosquito Population

Integrated Mosquito Management Program

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You can control the mosquito population.

Mosquitoes are an all too familiar summer nuisance. They are not only annoying, but they present a potential health risk as transmitters of diseases such as encephalitis and West Nile virus. Mosquitoes require standing water for their young to hatch and develop. Once eggs are laid, a new crop of mosquitoes can hatch, grow and emerge from the water as adults in as little as one week. Eliminating potential breeding sites around your home can go a long way to reduce the mosquito population. Many mosquitoes stay very close to their juvenile habitat when they emerge as adults, and the females look for hosts to bite nearby. Eliminating mosquito habitats around your home can prevent bites, reduce your risk of disease and make your summer evenings more enjoyable.

Here are a few simple suggestions that can make a big difference in controlling the mosquito population in your own back yard:

- Empty, remove, cover or turn over any container that has the potential to hold water.
- Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.
- Make sure gutters and downspouts are free of blockage and are properly draining.
- Change the water in wading pools weekly and store indoors when not in use.
- Properly dispose of old tires.
- Empty planters that hold water twice each week.
- Empty bird baths twice weekly.
- Empty your pets watering dishes daily.
- Use sand to plug holes in trees where water can collect.
- Drain or fill low areas on your property that hold water for more than three days.
- Remind or help neighbors to eliminate breeding sites on their property.

If you have questions, want to complete a service request or need additional information about mosquitoes, call Franklin County Public Health's Mosquito Bite Line at (614) 525-BITE (2483) and leave a message; your call will be returned. Or, visit www.myfcph.org.

Follow us on Facebook (Franklin County Public Health) and/or Twitter (FC_PublicHealth) to receive notifications regarding mosquitoes or mosquito spraying as it is scheduled.

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